Message Text

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P R 210236Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7611 INFO AMCONDUL HONG KONG AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 3826

DEPARTMENT: PASS EA/IMS FOR INFO.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, MY, AFSP, APER

SUJECT: CONSULAR STAFFING VS CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM - MALAYSIA ET AL.

REF: A) KUALA LUMPUR 3360: B) HONG KONG 6116 (PARA2), AND C) 6344; D) BANGKOK 13178; E) STATE 135070

1. REFERENCE (A)'S PARAGRAPH ONE SUMMARY EXPLAINS THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR AN EXPERIENCED AID REFUGEE OFFICER AT KUALA LUMPUR, AND IN THE EVENT SUCH STAFFING IS NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, THE RETENTION OF DOUGLAS PARADIS AT K.L. FOR THE REQUIRED INTERIM PERIOD. REFERENCE (D) FROM BANGKOK DIRECTS THE RETURN OF PARADIS TO HIS HOME STATION FROM TDY NO LATER THAN JULY 8. REFERENCE (E) FURTHER COMPOUNDS POST'S SKELETAL CONSULAR STAFFING BY TRANSFERRING FSO-6 DOUGLAS RASMUSSEN, THE ONLY EXPERIENCED REFUGEE OFFICER AT POST, AFTER ONLY TWENTY-ONE MONTHS OF HIS TOUR.

2. OUTLINE OF ANTICIPATED POST CONSULAR STAFFING IN THE TRYING WEEKS AHEAD (WHICH INCLUDE HEAVY SEASONAL STUDENT AND VISITOR UNCLASSIFIED

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VISA ISSUANCES AS WELL AS THE CONTINUING REFUGEE IMPASSE) FOLLOWS:

A. JULY 5 - NEW CHIEF OF CONSULAR UNIT, DEAN DIZIKES, ARRIVES AN ASSUMES CHARGE. ROBERT STEBBINS, OUTGOING CONSULAR UNIT CHIEF, DEPARTS POST ON JULY 8 FOR FSI LANGUAGE TRAINING AND TRANSFER TO HAMBURG

B. JULY 8 - DOUGLAS PARADIS, CURRENTLY ON TDY FROM BANGKOK, AND CURRENTLY CONCENTRATING ON NIV ISSUANCES, RETURNS TO HIS PERMANENT POST OF ASSIGNEMENT. FIRST TOUR JUNIOR ROTATIONAL OFFICER MARTHA MCLOGAN (WITH CONSULAR COMMISSION BUT NO FIELD EXPERIENCE) IS WITHDRAWN FROM ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION 50-2021-058 AND ASSIGNED FORMER PARADIS DUTIES.

C. AUGUST 1 - DOUGLAS RASMUSSEN, PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED OCCUPANT OF POSITION 50-2021-058 BUT CURRENTLY CARRYING DUTIES OF REFUGEE OFFICER (VIEW HIS LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND LOCAL CONSULAR EXPERIENCE RESULT EXTENDED CONSULAR COVER PERIODS), DEPARTS FOR FSI LANGUAGE TRAINING AND VIENTIANE ASSIGNMENT. NO REFUGEE OFFICER REPLACEMENT YET ASSIGNED.

3. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT DIZIKES AND MCLOGAN, ONE NEW TO THE AREA AND THE OTHER WITH NO ACTUAL CONSULAR EXPERIENCE, SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO COPE WITH THE IMPOSSIBLE DEMANDS ON TIME AND ENERGIES CURRENTLY PRESENTED BY REFUGEE AND NIV WORK LOAD. IT SHOULD ALSO BE BORNE IN MIND THAT MISS MCLOGAN, A JUNIOR ROTATIONAL OFFICER, SHOULD BE ALLOWED EXPOSURE TO COMMERCIAL/ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL (INADDITION TO ADMIN & CONSULAR) AREAS OF THE EMBASSY AS HER TOUR PROGRESSES; HENCE EXTENDED CONSULAR ASSIGNMENT RUNS CONTRARY TO BASIC ASSIGNMENT POLICY.

4. THE TIME HAS COME FOR A REALISTIC CONSULAR ASSIGNMENT POLICY UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR KUALA LUMPUR. CONSULAR PACKAGES OVER PAST TWO YEARS HAVE PLEADED FOR AN INCREASE IN COMPLEMENT OF ONE ADDITIONAL AMERICAN CONSULAR OFFICER (VICE CONSUL).

5. BEFORE AGREEING TO EARLY RELEASE OF RASMUSSEN, KUALA LUMPUR MUST HAVE CONFIRMED ASSIGNMENT ETA MID-JULY OF A PERMANENT EXPERIENCED JUNIOR CONSULAR OFFICER TO ASSUME HEAVY GENERAL CONSULAR WORKLOADS: IN ADDITION, AN AID OR OTHER REFUGEE OFFICER SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE NEEDS OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES SO LONG AS THE CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM FOR INDOCHINESE FOLLOWS ITS PRESENT COURSE.

6. CABLED REPLY URGENTLY REQUESTED. MILLER

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Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009

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